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California GIS Council  
Meeting Minutes  
April 5, 2006  
Santa Barbara CA

Attendance – ## Members in attendance (See Attached Sheet)  
Council Actions in **Bold**

1. Welcome and Introduction
  - a. Quorum established
  - b. Draft minutes from previous meeting accepted by unanimous vote**
  - c. Seat representing Education Sector to be held by the Director of the California State University GIS Specialty Center, currently Dr. Jerry Davis, approved by unanimous vote**
2. Regional Overview – presented by George White, President of CGIA
  - a. Mr. White gave an overview of regional GIS activities stemming from bi-monthly regional collaborative meetings CGIA hosts. These discussions are a way for regional councils/collaboratives to communicate about what they are doing and collaborate on policy issues of mutual benefit. California is unique in its regional make up; one of California regions would be equivalent in size to many other states. A key next priority will be for regional councils/collaboratives to work together to develop a California Geospatial Framework Data Draft Plan that serves California's diverse interests.
3. NSGIC Update
  - a. Imagery for the Nation – presented by Carol Ostergren  
Presentation on Council [www site](http://www.gis.ca.gov)
    - Congratulations to CIRGIS for successful CAP grant proposal
    - Congratulations to all regions for data-sharing agreements, imagery consortiums, and other accomplishments
    - National spotlight shines on CA—best practices are recognized through regional efforts
    - National States Geographic Information Council – a National organization to represent states' geospatial interests Craft, support, and endorse national initiatives such as CAP grants, increased effective coordination, standards development, etc. Leverage considerable influence in policy arena.

Everyone Wants Imagery

Current Problems

  - Public Records Laws Require Public Domain, or Allow License, Copyright
  - Every Organization Meets Own Mission
  - Varying quality, image types, resolution, projections, tile schemes
  - Inconsistent Treatment for Homeland Security
  - Failure to maintain many partnerships
  - Money comes and goes
  - No sustainable National program
  - Should not be constrained by what you can afford
  - No comprehensive national program to meet the needs of all levels of government
  - As a result, we are wasting money in three ways
    - Duplication of effort
    - Not using nationwide contracting
    - Reducing the value and availability of product



- Duplication results in wasted tax dollars for:
  - Production
  - Quality Control
  - Archive and Distribution
  - Planning (thousands of hours are spent in every state and at the Federal level trying to pull partnerships together)
  - Contracting - Local governments (small areas) generally will pay at least 30% more money than a large federal program for the same product because they can't get a "volume discount"
  - Sometimes they pay excessive amounts for a variety of reasons
- Vision – *The nation will have a sustainable and flexible digital imagery program that meets the needs of local, state, regional, tribal and federal agencies.*
- NSGIC Created Imagery for the Nation (Conceptually) Fall 2004 Developed the concept by Committee
- August 2005 "Pitched" the program to the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC)
- October 2005 FGDC sent the concept to the National Digital Orthophoto Program (NDOP) for review
- NDOP's Assignment – 1) Evaluate and "firm-up" the program design, 2) Review Budget and Develop a Strategy, 3) Develop a Business Plan, 4) Involve Stakeholders
- Three Distinct Programs – 1) One Meter, 2) One Foot, 3) Six Inch
- One-Meter Program
  - Enhancement of the existing National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP)
  - Annual coverage of "lower 48" states
  - Hawaii, Insular Areas and Territories will be acquired every 3 years
  - Alaska will be acquired every 5 years
  - Natural color, leaf-on
  - Limited "buy-up" options
  - CIR
  - Four Band Digital
  - Improved Horizontal Accuracy
- One-Foot Program
  - Everything East of Mississippi River & All Counties West of Mississippi River with Population > 25 People/Square Mile
  - Every 3 Years
  - Leaf-off, natural color, 5' NSSDA
  - Extensive buy-up options
  - USGS manages program – states have option to manage their contracting
  - Buy-up Options
  - False Color Infrared
  - 4-Band Digital Product
  - Increased Frequency
  - Increased Footprint
  - Increased Horizontal Accuracy
  - Sample to Lower Resolution
  - Increased Resolution to 6"
  - Improved Elevation Data
  - Remove Building Lean (True Ortho)
- Six-Inch Program
  - All Urbanized Areas per U.S. Census Bureau Definitions (>50,000 population with > 1,000 people per square mile)
  - Every 3 Years
  - Leaf-off, Natural Color, 2.5' NSSDA
  - Extensive Buy-up Options
  - USGS Manages Program – states have contracting option
  - 50% Cost Share Requirement
- Program Basics
  - Statewide GIS councils will specify orthoimagery requirements in business plans
  - Plans will be filed with the NDOP Steering Committee
  - All imagery will reside in the public domain, remain available on Internet
  - Use a consistent national approach to address security concerns.
  - National standards will be used
  - Federal funds will pay for the standard products
  - "Buy-up" provisions will meet more specific needs of users
  - States have first option for managing the high-resolution programs
  - Contract incentives will be used to assure timely product deliveries (??)
  - Performance based specifications
  - All industry sectors should be able to compete on contracts
  - Small
  - Large
  - Digital
  - Film
  - Satellite
- Budget Detail
  - Expected Taxpayer Savings

- Large Area Contracting \$57.8 m
  - Reduced Duplication of Effort \$53.6 m
  - Other Costs \$7.5 m
  - Standards and ROI \$40.1 m
  - Total Savings (per 3-year cycle) \$159 m
  - (Savings are realized by replacing existing local, state, tribal and federal programs with one consistent national program)
- Opportunities
  - Program is needed and wanted...
  - If we can't do this one, there will never be an NSDI
  - Success of this program can pave way for others (roads, parcels, etc.)...
  - Two agencies already have programs in place that support this proposal...
- Challenges
  - Massive effort with aggressive timeline...
  - Identifying program expenditures across all Federal agencies...
  - Developing funding alternatives without complete picture...
  - Managing expectations...
- What's Happening
  - Executive Federal committee appointed to look at funding alternatives
  - Trying to get into '08 Budget ????
  - NSGIC pulling together a coalition to advocate for program in Congress
  - "Kick-off" March 22
  - ArcNews article in next issue
  - National survey on NSGIC's web page
- What Can you do?
  - Understand where we are in this process
  - Framework Only – Selected federal agencies are meeting to see how to fund the program
  - No authorization and No appropriation
  - Keep in touch with NSGIC
  - Look for opportunities to advocate for IFTN
  - Let us know what you think about the *Imagery for the Nation* proposal

1. Council Discussion – Council thought this was a good idea in general.

Discussion continued with what to do next. Motion to form a sub committee to look at details, support NSGIC effort, and begin detailing a business plan for imagery in California. Plan might focus on supporting Imagery for the Nation by highlighting California's needs. Key points made to have group formed, with agenda by June and clearly defined goals for out come.

2. Form an Imagery Sub Committee approved by unanimous vote.  
**Contact Carol Ostergren for being on the Sub-Committee.**

b. 50 States Initiative – presented by Mike Byrne

Presentation on Council www site

- Objective
  - Present the 50 States Initiative
  - Review the purpose and function of strategic and business plans
  - Determine what our respective needs are for strategic and business plans
  - Outline Templates provided by NSGIC
- 50 States Initiative History
  - Approved by NSGIC Board in Dec. 2004
  - Approved by NSGIC Board in Dec. 2004
  - Presented to the FGDC Steering Committee in June 2005
  - Approved by FGDC Steering Committee on October 3 with a modified proposal
- Best Practices
  - Establish a full-time coordinator
  - Provide authority for coordination
  - Establish a relationship with the CIO
  - Provide a political champion
  - Assign responsibilities for NSDI and Clearinghouse
  - Provide solutions for working with all sectors
  - Provide sustainable funding
  - Provide contracting authority
  - Develop Plans (Strategic and Business)
- The 50 States Initiative is data focused. It is intended to help create a state's Spatial Data Infrastructure consistent with the NSDI. Focus in the beginning should be on framework data.

- Provide a mechanism for broad representation and inclusion in decision-making by user communities, including Federal, state, county, municipal and tribal governments; private sector GIS users and vendors; academic sector; non-profit organizations; utilities; and the general public
  - Develop Strategic Plans that incorporate a vision statement, with appropriate goals and objectives related to implementing the NSDI and allowing people to work together
  - Develop and maintain Business and Marketing Plans that details the development of a geospatial technology infrastructure (including data) to mirror the definition of the NSDI
  - A Council Strategic Plan
    - Identify how to build and maintain a functioning statewide coordination council
    - Identify how to implement NSGIC's nine coordination criteria
    - In order to build a State Spatial Data Framework
  - Framework Data Business Plans
    - Needs Assessment
    - Identify status of data development
    - Identify opportunities for data partnerships
    - Identify funding mechanisms
    - Introduce enterprise architecture, National Geospatial Strategy, and standards
    - Evaluate return on investment
  - Chairs recommendation to form a sub-committee to create a strategic plan
1. Council Discussion – Discussion in favor a strategic planning group happened. Suggestions included forming group immediately. Discussion on the perceived outcome and timeline was varied. The Sub-Committee, once formed should position itself to create a strategic plan or position itself for a 2006 Cap Grant for writing a Strategic Plan. The time-line of the plan should be over the next 9 – 18 months. A Group should be formed by June and report at the next Council Meeting.
  2. **Form a Strategic Plan Sub Committee approved by unanimous vote.**  
**Contact Mike Byrne for interest in being on the Sub-Committee.**

#### 4. Digital Lands Records Inventory

- Question – Which letter do we support?
- Understanding
  - What is our motivation?
  - What are we trying to accomplish?
  - Why?
  - What principles our guiding our decisions?
- History
- June 2004 – Psomas – CMCC DLRI Study
- January 2005 – DLRI Workgroup
- October 2005 – Attorney General's Opinion
- October 19, 2005 – DLRI Workshop
- November 2005 – DLRI - Preferred Funding Initiatives
  - \$ 1- 5 tax on real estate transactions to create a revenue source for the counties
  - Oregon model
- DLRI Vision Statement – Create a comprehensive database of statewide parcels to meet the unique needs of user groups such as government agencies, business community, and general public, academic & nonprofit organizations. Parcels will be available county-by-county, currently updated, and readily available at low to no cost.
  - Compromise: Available to state agencies
  - Future Statement: Add stitched statewide parcel fabric
- Expanded Statement: Options
  - To realize the statewide parcel objective we are evaluating five options:
    1. Enforce the Public Records Law
    2. Build Geodata Repositories for Emergency Response and Disaster Preparedness
    3. Capture the Value of Geodata Usage, and Allocate a Portion to Geodata Maintenance
    4. Promote the Use of Standard Data Distribution Policies and License Agreements
    5. Recommend State Government Incentive Payments
- Expanded Statement: Dashboard
  - We will regularly measure and report (dashboard) on the progress of the statewide parcel objective by measuring progress in the areas of:
    1. Availability: constrained Å to fully accessible
    2. Legal: as interpreted by each county Å legal mandate
    3. Comprehensiveness: subset of 58 counties Å full 58 county coverage
    4. Standards: county-by-county Å to developed statewide standard
    5. Geometry: widely diverse as-supplied Å common edge matched (stitched) with metadata

6. Projection: diverse as-supplied ↔ common projection with metadata
7. Resolution: widely diverse as-supplied ↔
8. Delivery: Formal request and slow delivery ↔ immediately available electronically

- December 2005 – California Geospatial Framework Data Survey
- January 2006 – Bruce's Letter & Craig's Letter
- March 5, 2006 – Which Letter do we support?
- Considerations – Business Needs (Emergency Response, Homeland Security, Duplication of efforts), Standards, Survey Results, Role of GIS, California Strategic Growth Plan, Counties Response to the AG Opinion, Timing
- Next Steps:
- Meeting Legislative Affairs to draft proposed legislation
- Promote/Market DLRI
  - Support inside State government
  - Support outside State government
- Meet with Department of Real Estate
- Define guiding principles for California GIS Council / DLRI Workgroup
  - What is our relationship with the data owners
- Communication Plan
- Build relationships

1. Council Discussion – Several Counties recently ‘voted’ their digital parcels into the public domain (San Mateo, Mendocino, Los Angeles).  
Discussion centered around a better approach to wait and see what the counties will do with respect to digital parcels and their response to the AG Opinion.

## **2. No Action taken by the Council**

## **5. Wrap-Up discussion**

- a. Next meeting targeted for August. Agenda will include reports from DLRI, Imagery and Strategic Sub-Committee's.
- b. Meeting adjourned.